



JANUARY 2010

**PO Box 64933
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www.lagbac.org**

**A MESSAGE FROM
THE PRESIDENT
HAPPY NEW YEAR EDITION**

Dear Members,

Greetings and Happy New Year! It's hard to believe that we are embarking on a new year, with new events, programs and initiatives. We are also hoping to add a few new members in 2010. Over the last few years, we've seen membership in LAGBAC increase over 300%, which is a testament to the hard work and dedication of not only the Board, but the membership, itself. The membership has really answered the call, by forwarding our emails, bringing friends and colleagues to our events and participating in other initiatives. For that, we want to thank you. As we roll into 2010, however, I am renewing my request that you help us build membership by forwarding our email correspondence and newsletters to friends and colleagues. In addition, I hope you will bring friends and colleagues to our events and encourage them to participate in our initiatives.

Speaking of initiatives, we've got a lot in store for 2010. Starting in January, LAGBAC is hosting a "Meet the LGBT Candidates", along with Equality Illinois, on January 19th. On January 27th, we will honor the retirement of Judge Tom Chiola and the appointment of Justice Sebastian Patti. On January 29th, LAGBAC will hosts its first monthly "Meet the Bar" for 2010. In February, we will, of course be hosting a "Meet the Bar" on February 19th, followed by a Bulls game on February 26th, which is open to participants in the mentorship program (mentors and mentees). If January and February are any indication, the entire year is going to be packed, including the return of the Rollerderby outing (May/June), Judges Pride Reception (June), Lawyers for Diversity (July) and Market Days (August). There will also be additional CLEs and other seminars and panels announced in the near future.

Please join us for these events. We are working hard to bring you meaningful programs and we hope you will take advantage of them!

Best, Jeremy

**GET READY TO VOTE: LAGBAC JEC'S
JUDICIAL CANDIDATE EVALUATION RESULTS ARE HERE!**

LAGBAC's Judicial Evaluation Committee has done its usual thorough evaluation of the numerous candidates for judge appearing on the February primary ballot. The ballot-ready results are attached as the final two pages of the newsletter. The Board would like to thank our JEC co-chairs Mark Dupont and Susana Darwin and all who participated in this season's rigorous process. We still have work to do this year. If you are interested in joining the Judicial Evaluation Committee or have questions about its work, please contact JEC liaison Skip Harsch at mharsch@lagbac.org.

LAGBAC is a member of an Alliance of a number of small bar associations. Results from all Alliance bars will be posted at voteforjudges.org.

**CELEBRATING MILESTONES FOR TWO TRAILBLAZERS
LAGBAC Gala for Hon. Tom Chiola and Hon. Sebastian Patti To Be Held January 27**

LAGBAC is holding a reception honoring the retirement of gay judicial pioneers Tom Chiola and Sebastian Patti at Rockit Bar and Grill, 22 W. Hubbard in Chicago, at 6 PM on January 27. Tom Chiola was the first openly gay candidate elected to public office in Illinois when he won a Cook County Circuit Court judgeship in 1994. He has served on the Circuit Court of Cook County since then, having been re-elected countywide in 2000 and 2006. Sebastian Patti was the first openly-gay Circuit Court appointee, was the first openly-gay man elected to a Cook County-wide office, and the first openly-gay appointee to the Appellate Court (by the Supreme Court). Both have been consistently active in the community. We are pleased to be honoring Tom on his retirement, and Sebastian on his appointment to the Illinois Appellate Court. Come join us! If you'd like to attend, please contact Jeremy Gottschalk at jgottschalk@lagbac.org. Big thanks to our Platinum Sponsors Rockit Bar and Grill and Schiff Hardin LLP, our Silver Sponsors Jenner & Block, the National LGBT Bar Association, Citizens to Elect Linda J. Pael, and Citizens to Elect Diann K. Maraselek, and event sponsors Absolut Vodka and Heineken.

**NIGHT OUT AT THE
BULLS GAME FEB. 26**

The LAGBAC mentorship program will be hosting a night at the Bulls game on Friday, February 26, 2010 for only \$15 per person! This great deal includes a charter bus transport from a Loop-area meeting point, the ticket for the game, and transport after the game to a bar in Andersonville for some post-game revelry! All this fun will start at 5:00pm on February 26 (bus pickup from Loop location at 6:15), and is open to members enrolled in the LAGBAC mentorship program. We have 30 tickets available on a first come, first served basis, so hurry and get your tickets today! To reserve a space or if you have any questions, e-mail John Litchfield at jlitchfield@lagbac.org. Details on pick-up and drop-off locations will be emailed to participants in February.

**MEET THE LGBT
CANDIDATES JAN. 19**

Please join LAGBAC and Equality Illinois at Sidetrack on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at 6:00pm for an evening with the many Illinois LGBT candidates running for public office in the February 2 primary election. The LGBT community is lucky to have 13 of our own running for various offices, both local and state-wide, and our organizations are excited to give the candidates a chance to introduce themselves to their voters. Admission to this event is FREE and open to all. If you have questions, please contact John Litchfield at jlitchfield@lagbac.org. Sidetrack is located at 3349 N. Halsted in Chicago.

LAGBAC FOUNDATION SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS: APPLICANTS NEEDED!

2009 was a tumultuous year in the world of LGBTQ civil rights. We celebrated victories in Connecticut, Iowa, Kalamazoo, MI, New Hampshire, Vermont, Washington state, and Washington, D.C. California has a gay Assembly Speaker, Chapel Hill, North Carolina has a gay mayor and just this month, Annise Parker was sworn in as mayor of Houston, Texas. And, as we all know, the GLBT community suffered its share of defeats as well. Marriage equality being repealed in Maine stung deeply.

It is an exciting time to work toward equality for all LGBTQ people under the law. Legal organizations are working hard to achieve this goal in Illinois and everywhere. If you are a law student who is committed to social justice in the LGBTQ community and have secured or will secure an internship with an organization or agency that does this type of work, you know that these types of internships are often unpaid. For the past few years, in order to help students who choose this good and necessary work, the LAGBAC Foundation, the charitable arm of the Lesbian & Gay Bar Association of Chicago, has sponsored a scholarship that pays students who take these unpaid internships. Last year, the Foundation awarded scholarships to several recipients.

This year, The LAGBAC Foundation will again award scholarships to support full-time employment at a qualified LGBT/civil rights organization during the summer of 2010. First, Second and Third year law students are encouraged to apply. Applications can be found at www.lagbac.org and are due by March 12, 2010. Remember, you must apply for your own internship as well as the scholarship by March 12, 2010.

COMMITTEE FOR LGBT RIGHTS

The Committee for LGBT Rights is an inclusive group of professionals and law students that increases awareness of legal issues affecting the LGBT community; encourages involvement in the LGBT community; and facilitates discussions and strategic initiatives to advance LGBT rights. The Committee meets on the third Monday of every month from September to June at 12:00 p.m. at the Chicago Bar Association, located at 321 S. Plymouth Court in Chicago. In light of MLK day, the Committee for LGBT Rights will meet on Friday, January 22, 2010 at 12:00 p.m. The Committee holds interesting seminars involves current issues affecting LGBT Rights and has hosted an impressive list of speakers. Hot topics have included: whether Proposition 8 is bad constitutional precedent?; the impact of judicial appointments and elections on LGBT litigation; issues facing the LGBT elder community; HIV and LGBT immigration issues; and local, state, and federal legislation affecting the LGBT Community. Our Speakers have included Camilla Taylor, Senior Staff Attorney for Lambda Legal, who represented six gay and lesbian couples in Lambda Legal's unanimous victory for marriage equality Iowa; Illinois State Senator Heather Steans, a Democrat from the 7th District and an avid supporter of LGBT rights; Illinois State Representative Greg Harris, an openly-gay and HIV-positive legislator who has actively promoted LGBT rights in the Illinois Assembly; and Professor Andrew Koppelman from Northwestern University School of Law, who is known for his legal and scholarly work in the LGBT community. The Committee is actively working to coordinate its efforts with other local LGBT organizations to better serve our community at large. Whether you are LGBT or a straight-ally, we encourage and appreciate your support and involvement.

CHECK OUT LAGBAC'S WEBSITE!

Where can you go to find out when the next Meet the Bar is? Or find out about other upcoming fabulous LAGBAC events like our mentor/mentee outing, or the reception for Judge Chiola and Justice Patti? The answer is the LAGBAC website: www.lagbac.org!

Our website has the most up-to-date information about upcoming events, in addition to other important resources. You can find the 2010 LAGBAC Foundation Scholarship application on the website, as well as an application for the LAGBAC mentorship program. In addition, you can renew your membership through the link on the website, peruse our membership directory, or learn more about the organization and how to get more involved.

Now that it is 2010, we are even more committed to embracing information technology in order to serve you better. For those of you savvy social networkers out there, there is a link to LAGBAC's Facebook page on the website. Become a fan of LAGBAC on Facebook in order to get event reminders and join the LAGBAC community online. The website also has a link to LAGBAC's Google calendar, so you can copy the LAGBAC events you want to attend straight into your Google calendar. LAGBAC is here is serve you, so if there are anything else you'd like to see on our website, please email Adam Sorkin at asorkin@lagbac.org.

www.lagbac.org

LAGBAC teaming up with Women Everywhere: Partners in Service Project

LAGBAC is teaming up with Chicagoland's Women Everywhere: Partners in Service Project ("WE"). WE, a volunteer collective drawing from a number of local bar organizations, coordinates a variety of service projects on behalf of women and children in need. LAGBAC will participate in the Annual Women Everywhere Community Service Day on June 11, 2010 in which hundreds of volunteers offer their services to over 30 local agencies. LAGBAC will also help lead courthouse tours that WE arranges to expose high school girls to the legal system. The courthouse tours are scheduled for April 16, 2010. Stay tuned for more details about how you can join LAGBAC in these valuable programs. If you'd like to be notified once more details become available, please send your name and email address to Tracy Braun at tbraun@lagbac.org. For more information on WE, please see their website at wechicago.org.

MEET THE BAR!

LAGBAC is happy to announce the spring dates for our monthly Friday evening gathering Meet the Bar. This spring's Meet the Bar will be held on January 29, February 19, March 26, and April 30, 2010. Meet the Bar is a monthly social which brings together the Chicago area law students, practitioners, and judges in an informal setting to meet, network, and socialize. It is also a great opportunity to network, catch up with old friends, make new ones, and meet fellow LGBT attorneys and future lawyers. This highly-popular gathering of practitioners, judges, and the students of The John Marshall Law School, DePaul University College of Law, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Chicago-Kent College of Law, University of Chicago Law School, and Northwestern University School of Law takes place in the casual setting of Sidetrack, 3349 N. Halsted Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60657 (Roscoe and Halsted) from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. LAGBAC members get two free drink tickets, and guests can purchase two drink tickets for \$5. Your firm can also sponsor a Meet the Bar Night by contacting Jeremy Gottschalk at jgottschalk@lagbac.org.

Save the date!

The Annual Lawyers for Diversity BBQ will be held at Sidetrack on July 29, 2010. Details coming soon!

CBA COMMITTEE ON LGBT RIGHTS

Please join us on January 22, 2010 at 1215 pm at the CBA, 321 S. Plymouth Court, for the next CBA Committee on LGBT Rights. Our speaker will be Michael Jarecki who will discuss changes in immigration laws that affect our community. Michael will focus his talk on the repeal of the ban on travel for those infected with HIV and pending legislation that could same sex couples the same immigration rights afforded to different sex couples (this is known as the Uniting American Families Act). Lawyers and non-lawyers are always welcome to attend any CBA meeting. CLE credit may be available to CBA lawyer members.

Please note that our committee generally meets on the 3rd Monday of each month. Due to holidays in January and February, we will not be meeting at our regularly scheduled dates in those months. In February, we will meet on the 22nd. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact Chuck Little at (312) 332-6194 x58 or at chucktl@gmail.com.

LAGBAC MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The mentorship program, in its second year, is seeing continued success. This fall saw the pairing of over two dozen law students with Chicago-land lawyers. Nicole and Skip would like to thank everyone for their continued participation. We are always looking for new mentors and mentees, so please email either of us. (nbashor@lagbac.org and mharsch@lagbac.org) We hope to see many of you at the Bulls game in February. Oh, and be on the lookout for future mentorship program events!

LAGBAC MEMBER DIRECTORY

A resource for members, the LAGBAC Member Directory provides contact and practice-related information on its members through the website, on a voluntary basis. It is available to LAGBAC members only, and is designed to provide current and specific information about the member's area of practice, firm, specialties, whether or not the member's firm or practice is LGBT friendly, and whether the member is open to accepting referrals. The Directory is updated and kept current based upon member-submitted data, on a regular basis. The LAGBAC Member Directory is for informational purposes only. The directory is available on LAGBAC's website, at www.lagbac.org. To become a participating member of the Directory, please complete the LAGBAC Member Directory Form, and return it to: LAGBAC Member Directory, by regular mail to: c/o LAGBAC, P.O. Box 64933, Chicago, Illinois 60664-0933, or pdfs by e-mail to jgottschalk@lagbac.org.

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF LAGBAC?

Join now by going to www.lagbac.org or mailing your membership dues to:

LAGBAC
P.O. Box 64933
Chicago, Illinois 60664-0933

Did you know annual memberships expire December 31? Have you renewed for 2010?

LAGBAC members enjoy the following benefits:

- *Meet the Bar nights (nonmembers and guests will be charged \$5);
- *Lawyers for Diversity Mid-Summer Barbecue (nonmembers, non-sponsoring firms & guests will be charged to attend);
- * Judge's Pride Reception and other receptions and events;
- *Continuing Legal Education seminars (as offered);
- *Membership on LAGBAC's committees; and
- *Much, much more...

Future communication from LAGBAC will be electronic. You MUST provide us with an email address to receive future information and newsletters. If you are unable to accept electronic communications, please note that on this form and add \$10 to your dues. Membership runs January 1-December 31.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Email: _____
Amount Enclosed: _____

ANNUAL DUES:

_____ Sustaining Member \$100
_____ Sponsoring Member \$75
_____ Regular Member \$50
_____ Student Member \$30 (*valid through December 31 of graduating year*)
If applying for Student Membership, please indicate law school/graduation date: _____

OUTLaw UPDATE

The Outlaw Coalition Chicago (“OCC”) is gearing up for another eventful semester. Last semester, the OCC, in coordination with the Alliance of Illinois Judges, hosted a “Meet the Judges” event where LGBT law students were able to meet members of the Alliance of Illinois Judges, a group formed by the Illinois’ lesbian and gay judges. Hosted by Northwestern University School of Law, the group reported a great turn out and a successful event.

This semester, Loyola Chicago’s Outlaw group plans on hosting two events for the OCC community. On January 28, the group will host a welcome-back “Bar Review” for the Chicago Outlaw groups as a chance to socialize and catch up with fellow law students. In addition, the group is planning an education pertaining to the issue of sexuality and the law. Time and date TBA, so stay tuned!

Lesbian and Gay Bar Association of Chicago

Evaluations of Judicial Candidates for the February 2010 Primary

LAGBAC’S judicial ratings are non-partisan and are NOT endorsements. They represent evaluations of each candidate’s qualifications for judicial office. See the reverse for the criteria that LAGBAC’s Judicial Evaluation Committee applies in evaluating judicial candidates.

(D) Democrat (R) Republican

Numbers in parentheses following candidate names are their ballot numbers

Evaluation of Candidates for the Appellate Court, First District

Hon. Jill K. McNulty Vacancy

- (D) Arnette R. Hubbard (131) Not Recommended
- (D) Ellen L. Flannigan (132) Not Recommended
- (D) Jim Ryan (133) Not Recommended
- (D) James R. Epstein (134) Highly Recommended
- (D) Kathleen G. Kennedy (135) Recommended

Hon. Leslie E. South Vacancy

- (D) Mary K. Rochford (142) Highly Recommended
- (D) Sebastian T. Patti (143) Highly Recommended
- (D) Kevin Rogers (144) Not Recommended
- (D) William D. O’Neal (145) Not Recommended
- (D) Anthony Lynn Burrell (146) Not Recommended

Hon. Denise M. O’Malley Vacancy

- (D) Thomas Lee Hogan (137) Recommended
- (D) Pamela E. Hill Veal (138) Not Recommended
- (D) Frank Edward Gardner(139)Not Recommended
- (D) Aurelia Marie Pucinski (140)Not Recommended
- (D) Don R. Sampen (141) Recommended

Evaluation of Candidates for the Circuit Court in the Countywide Elections

Hon. Richard B. Berland Vacancy

- (D) William H. Hooks (151) Recommended
- (D) Deidre Baumann (152) Not Recommended
- (D) William Burnett Raines(153) Recommended

Hon. Philip L. Bronstein Vacancy

- (D) Terry MacCarthy (154) Highly Recommended
- (D) Diann Karen Marsalek(156) Recommended
- (D) Sharon F. Patterson (157) Recommended
- (D) Thomas W. Flannigan (158) Recommended

Hon. Francis J. Dolan Vacancy

- (D) Susan K. Sullivan (159) Recommended
- (D) Linda J. Pael (160) Highly Recommended
- (D) Kevin J. Murphy (161) Not Recommended
- (D) Ubi O’Neal (162) Not Recommended

Hon. Marsha D. Hayes Vacancy

- (D) Raymond W. Mitchell (163) Recommended
- (D) Bonnie Carol McGrath (164) Not Recommended
- (D) Carl B. Boyd (165) Not Recommended

Hon. Daniel J. Kelly Vacancy

- (D) John P. Callahan, Jr. (166) Recommended
- (D) Joanne F. Fehn (167) Not Recommended

Hon. Carol Pearce McCarthy Vacancy

- (R) Maureen M. Pulia (168) Recommended
- (R) Michaela Nolan Ryan (169) Not Recommended
- (D) Daniel J. Gallagher (168) Recommended

Hon. James P. O’Malley Vacancy

- (D) Thomas V. Lyons II (181) Recommended

Hon. Ronald C. Riley Vacancy

- (D) Sandra G. Ramos (183) Not Recommended
- (D) Russell W. Hartigan (184) Highly Recommended
- (D) James Michael Bailey (185) Recommended
- (D) John Patrick Nyhan (186) Not Recommended
- (D) Edmund P. Michalowski(187)Not Recommended
- (D) Marvin W. Gray (188) Not Recommended
- (D) Tracey J. Stokes (189) Recommended

Evaluation of Candidates for the Circuit Court in the Subcircuit Elections

First Subcircuit (Hon. Sharon Johnson Coleman Vacancy)

- (D) Thaddeus L. Wilson (191) Recommended
(D) Linnae Bryant (192) Not Recommended

First Subcircuit (Hon. John O. Steele Vacancy)

- (D) Sharon Dolores
Oden-Johnson (193) Not Recommended
(D) Michelle Huggis Flagg (194) Not Recommended
(D) Jesse Outlaw (195) Not Recommended
(D) Joseph Chico (196) Not Recommended
(D) Theodore Ted London (197) Not Recommended

First Subcircuit (Additional Judgeship A Vacancy)

- (D) Bonita Coleman-John (198) Not Recommended

Third Subcircuit (Hon. Thomas F. Carmody, Jr. Vacancy)

- (D) Allen F. Murphy (191) Recommended
(D) Peter M. Kramer (192) Not Recommended
(D) Thomas G. O'Brien (193) Not Recommended
(D) Steven G. Watkins (194) Recommended
(D) Charles F. Fitzgerald (195) Recommended
(D) Daniela Silaides (196) Not Recommended

Third Subcircuit (Hon. Daniel P. Darcy Vacancy)

- (D) Edward S. Harmening (197) Recommended
(D) James Patrick Doran (198) Recommended
(D) Thomas J. Murphy (199) Recommended
(D) David J. Coleman (200) Highly Recommended

Third Subcircuit (Additional Judgeship A Vacancy)

- (D) Daniel Malone (201) Highly Recommended
(D) Ronald Joseph Hurley (202) Not Recommended
(D) Mary McNamara (203) Not Recommended
(D) Bernadette McNicholas (204) Highly Recommended
(D) Pamela Cotton (205) Not Recommended

Ninth Subcircuit (Hon. Sandra R. Otaka Vacancy)

- (D) Abbey F. Romanek (191) Recommended
(D) Yehuda Lebovits (192) Recommended
(D) Geary W. Kull (193) Recommended
(D) Dennis Michael Fleming (194) Recommended

Ninth Subcircuit (Additional Judgeship A Vacancy)

- (D) Steven James "Steve"
Bernstein (195) Not Recommended
(D) Michael Ian Bender (196) Highly Recommended
(D) Jeffrey Dov Greenspan (197) Recommended
(D) William Joseph Luby (198) Recommended
(D) Scott Bagnall (199) Not Recommended
(D) Mary Susan Trew (200) Highly Recommended

Eleventh Subcircuit (Hon. Barbara Ann Riley Vacancy)

- (D) Steve Fruth (191) Recommended
(D) Maritza Martinez (192) Not Recommended
(D) Ann Finley Collins (193) Recommended
(D) Pamela M. Meyerson (194) Highly Recommended
(D) John Michael Lagattuta (195) Recommended
(D) Pamela M. Leeming (196) Recommended
(D) Thomas David Bilyk (197) Recommended

Eleventh Subcircuit (Hon. Barbara Ann Riley Vacancy) (continued)

- (D) Lisa A. Marino (198) Not Recommended
(D) Eugene Joseph Berkes (199) Not Recommended
(D) Kim R. Kardas (201) Recommended
(D) John W. Chwarzynski (202) Not Recommended

Fourteenth Subcircuit (Additional Judgeship A Vacancy)

- (D) Daniel J. Pierce (191) Recommended

Fifteenth Subcircuit (Hon. Marcella C. Lipinski Vacancy)

- (D) Linzey D. Jones (191) Recommended
(D) Frank James Ryan (192) Recommended
(D) Pat Flanagan (193) Recommended
(D) Nicholas Karas (194) Not Recommended
(D) Richard G. Karwaczka (195) Not Recommended
(D) Karla Marie Fiaoni (196) Recommended
(D) Michael B Barrett (198) Recommended
(D) Joan M. G. Kubalanza (199) Recommended

Fifteenth Subcircuit (Hon. Paul Panichi Vacancy)

- (D) George F. Scully (200) Recommended
(D) Mary Therese Quinn (201) Recommended
(D) Michael Huguelet (202) Recommended
(D) Peter A. Fera (203) Not Recommended

Fifteenth Subcircuit (Hon. William Michael Phelan Vacancy)

- (D) John C. Griffin (204) Recommended
(D) Carl Evans, Jr. (205) Recommended
(D) Nichole C. Patton (206) Recommended
(D) Thomas "TJ" Somer (207) Not Recommended
(D) Mary Beth Kent Duffy (208) Recommended

The Lesbian and Gay Bar Association of Chicago has been evaluating state judges and judicial candidates since 1992.

LAGBAC's Judicial Evaluation Committee looks for each of the following in all candidates: excellence in legal, analytical, and writing skills; demonstrated impartiality; a thorough understanding of the entire legal process; a patient and respectful temperament; and sensitivity to issues of concern to LGBT individuals, women, and people of color. We also consider each candidate's personal and professional integrity, character, and extent of community participation and service.

LAGBAC is a member of the Alliance of Bar Associations for Judicial Screening. The ratings of LAGBAC and the other member bars of the Alliance may be found online at www.voteforjudges.org.

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